



Straight*talk*

News For And About The Libraries Of Northeast Nebraska

May/June 2011

Breaking All the Rules

Michael Sullivan wasn't joking around when he titled his program "Breaking All the Rules." In his presentation in Norfolk on April 15th, he advocated doing exactly that. He offered up four propositions that challenge the traditional roles and work of librarians.

Proposition 1 – Don't do collection development.

Don't read book reviews, just buy what your patrons want. Go to a demand-based purchasing model where you only buy what your patrons ask for. Institute a rule that says you will buy additional copies of titles with a list of holds. For example, if you have 5 holds on a particular titles, you buy another copy. Since typically only 10% of a collection circulates during a year, going to this model of purchasing will not only save you time, but will get what your patrons want into their hands.

Proposition 2 – Don't do reference.

Eliminate your reference collection. Libraries do 10 circulations for every 1 reference question asked, yet many mid- to large libraries spend 33% of their resources on reference. Put your money and staff resources where your patrons need them.

Proposition 3 – Don't do cataloging.

All patrons want, or need, is the author, title, publication date and maybe one subject heading. If you need more information, use WorldCat or Amazon, but don't waste time duplicating all that information into your own catalog. Most patrons don't need it. Sullivan's library spent 20 minutes a week cataloging all their new acquisitions.

Proposition 4 – Children's services drive public libraries.

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Children's librarians are under-appreciated, under-supported and misunderstood. Children's librarians shouldn't just serve children well, but should make sure children are well-served. That means they need to get out of the children's area and be involved in the community and the governance of the library. 60% of walk-in traffic in libraries is under 18, yet that proportion of the use of the library and its services is not reflected in the budgets for children's programs or collections. It costs about \$10/person for adult programming in the library, but only about 50 cents per child. We put very few resources into our children's programs, but they are vitally important. Poor pay for children's librarians will doom the future of public libraries.

Now that we've all had our feathers ruffled a little, you can use these thought-provoking ideas to have a great discussion at your next Library Board Meeting! ♦

Northeast News



Author and illustrator Steven Kellogg visited O'Neill and Tilden this March. He is pictured above with Becky Cemper, director of the O'Neill Public Library.

D. R. Haskin, author of *The Hills of Mars* and *Beyond the Hills of Mars*, toured several libraries this spring, including Atkinson, Bloomfield, Neligh, Stanton and Norfolk.



The Dakota City Public Library hosted a British Tea on April 14th. Nearly 60 people attended the tea celebrating British authors. Attendees not only enjoyed delicious scones and other baked goods, but savored coffee and tea



donated by Starbucks. Each table at the tea celebrated a different author, from Dickens to Rowling, with 15 authors being honored in all.

Besides being a great community event, it gave the library a chance to show off its recently renovated basement area that will now be used for Children's programs.

Pat on the Back Awards

Pat on the Back Awards will be given to **Georgia Hassebrook** of the Humphrey Public Library for outstanding library service, and to **Lois Poessnecker** and **Lisa Bilstein** of the Atkinson Public Library for being outstanding Friends of the Library. *Please notify the NELS office if you have someone you would like to nominate for a "Pat on the back!"*



58 librarians participated in the Summer Reading Program at the New World Inn in Columbus. They were educated and entertained by Jody Crocker, Sally Snyder and Jessica Chamberlain. To see more goofy pictures from the day, check out our Flickr page!

http://www.flickr.com/photos/nels_pics/

Ted Kooser will be making an appearance at **Norfolk Public Library** on June 8 at 7:00 p.m. Copies of his book "Local Wonders", the One Book One Nebraska selection for 2011 will be available for purchase. A book discussion of "Local Wonders" will be held on July 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the library's meeting room.

If you have a piece of news or a photo you'd like to share with your fellow northeast Nebraska libraries, email it to Jessica at the NELS office! jchamberlain.nels@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

A Calendar of Upcoming Events and links to details and registration forms can be found on our website at: <http://libraries.ne.gov/nels/calendar>

May 5—Branding Workshop—Venture Center, Central City

Mary Palu will explain the value of creating a “brand” for your library and the describe the process for developing one.

Time: 10:00—3:00

Contact: Denise Harders, RVLS Director, 800-569-4961/402-462-1975

May 18—NELS Board Meeting—Central Community College, Columbus

Directions and meeting agenda can be found on the NELS website listed above.

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Contact: Jessica Chamberlain, NELS Director, 800-578-1014/402-564-1586

May 21—Nebraska Book Festival—Nebraska History Museum, Lincoln

Nebraska authors with books published in 2010 have been invited to read from their work and Writers’ Workshops will be made available free of charge. The workshops will be led by Timothy Schaffert, Jim Reese, and Matt Mason/ Dwaine Spieker/Jeff Lacey.

Time: 1:00—6:30

Registration for Writers’ Workshop: www.nlc.state.ne.us/training/train.asp

July 8—TARGET Meeting—O’Neill Public Library

Time: 9:00—12:00

Contact: Jessica Chamberlain, NELS Director, 800-578-1014/402-564-1586

July 10-14—Nebraska Library Leadership Institute—St. Benedict Center, Schuyler

This is a four-day institute for 30 librarians from across the state who will become our library leaders of tomorrow. See page 10 for more details.

Time: 1:00 p.m. on the 10th until after lunch on the 14th

Contact: Kathy Tooker, Eastern Library System Director, 800-627-7884

July 20—NELS Board Meeting—Newman Grove Public Library

Directions and meeting agenda can be found on the NELS website listed above.

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Contact: Jessica Chamberlain, NELS Director, 800-578-1014/402-564-1586

July 30—Norfolk Public Library’s 17th Annual Literature Festival—Lifelong Learning Center, Norfolk

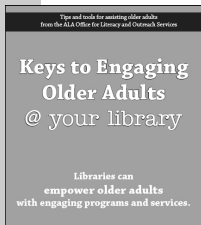
Time: 9:00—4:00

Contact: Karen Drevo, 402-844-2108 or kdrevo@ci.norfolk.ne.us

Serving Your Patrons

Serving Older Adults in the Public Library

If you're looking for ideas on how to reach out to the 50+ crowd at your library, check out the following resources.



Released in Spring, 2010, "Keys to Engaging Older Adults @ your library" is the latest library outreach toolkit offered by the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services. Created in response to the concerns of librarians across the country who provide services for the growing numbers of older adults in their communities, this toolkit contains valuable advice on programming, accessibility concerns, finding funding, engagement and implementation, model programs, and more. To order, please contact the OLOS office at (312) 280-4294, or email olos@ala.org. This toolkit is also available at no charge, online at

<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/olos/toolkits/olderadults.cfm>

For libraries interested in reaching out to the Baby Boomer generation, the California State Library created a program in 2007 that has since become a national model for inspiring library innovation in serving and engaging the growing population of midlife adults, ages 50+. It is called "Transforming Life after 50: A Resource for Libraries." You can find out more at <http://transforminglifeafter50.org/>.

PTI Nebraska

PTI Nebraska is a non-profit organization that serves children with disabilities and their families. They offer free resources, counseling and workshops to parents whose children have special needs. They also provide free, downloadable handouts on topics like bullying, healthcare and more. This would be a great organization to be aware of if you have any families seeking information or guidance on IEP's for their children, but they offer much more. The subjects of their resources range from early childhood to early adulthood. To learn more, contact the PTI Office at 1 (800) 284-8520 or visit their website: www.pti-nebraska.org.



Good News for Kindle Owners!

Amazon.com has announced that it will work with OverDrive to allow Kindle users to borrow library ebooks by the end of the year. This is great news for Kindle owners and great news for public libraries!

Internship Grants Awarded

The Nebraska Library Commission and the Nebraska Library Association recently awarded **21st Century Librarian internship grants** totaling \$22,750 to eighteen Nebraska public libraries. The following Nebraska libraries received internship grant funding:

- Arapahoe Public Library
- Bartley Public Library
- Bassett, Rock County Public Library
- Beatrice Public Library
- Blair Public Library
- Elgin Public Library
- Howells Public Library
- Lincoln City Libraries
- Meadow Grove Public Library
- Neligh Public Library
- Norfolk Public Library
- Ord Township Library
- Papillion, Sump Memorial Library
- Ponca Carnegie Library
- Randolph, Lied Randolph Public Library
- Schuyler Public Library
- South Sioux City Public Library
- Wayne Public Library

Congrats!

[illegible]

As a Public Library Board Member, Am I Allowed to Work for Pay in the Library?

By Richard Miller, Library Development Director, Nebraska Library Commission

This article grew out of a series of e-mails back and forth among a library board member, a public librarian, Kathy Tooker (Eastern Library System) and me. Kathy suggested I write an article about the topic since she and I (and I'm sure other regional System Administrators and other Commission staff) have had similar questions posed to them. The question above (used as the title of this article) is not a new one. We have heard it a number of times from library staff, library board members, and from city officials.



Here's the simple answer: NO!

Why not? Well, there are several good reasons:

- It's illegal, according to state statute (depending somewhat on interpretation).
- As keepers of the public trust (appointed by elected officials) library board members cannot afford to be viewed as engaging in "self-dealing" (aka, conflict of interest) that is, doing things that benefit them directly. They are there to represent the community as a whole, and their decisions must be based on that, not on what will result in some benefit, monetary or otherwise, to them or to their relatives. It's not good business. We realize libraries are not businesses in the sense of for-profit entities, but there is a good way and a bad way of doing business in libraries, nevertheless. And engaging in library board decisions that will benefit a library board member is a bad way of doing business.

Kathy found a number of resources that address this issue, and I've added one to the list. These are reviewed below:

- In the Nebraska State Statutes, Section 51-202 (1) near the end of that subsection states, "No member shall receive any pay or compensation for any services rendered as a member of the board." Now strictly speaking, this statute means that no library board member may be paid for being on the library board. It does however, allow library board members to be reimbursed if they, for example, attend a library-related meeting at the direction of the rest of the board. The statute doesn't strictly address what would happen if a library board member also served as a staff member. (Recent examples we've heard of include one board member who wanted to clean the library for three hours a week and be paid for it. This is not a good idea whether that board member would have been considered a library "staff" member, or a contractor.) In either case, the library board member is receiving some benefit on which she or he has made a decision to pay that benefit – that's the "self-dealing" noted above, and that's forbidden.

*As a Public Library Board Member,
Am I Allowed to Work for Pay in the Library? (continued)*

- A question came in about whether or not a library board member could work in the library if she or he volunteered. Strictly speaking there is probably nothing wrong with that (although it would be preferable that the community provide enough resources for adequate paid staff for the library). Number 14 of the Essential Level of the Accreditation Guidelines addresses this when it calls for paid staff during open hours: “The library employs paid staff during all scheduled hours that the library is open to the public.” It’s one thing for library board members to fill in occasionally for paid staff when the librarian is at training, but this should never become a regular occurrence. The library board and community need to think about liability issues when paid staff is not available during public hours.

From *The Nebraska Library Board Manual* comes the following:

“What are the legal responsibilities and liabilities of the trustees? The trustee of a public library is a public officer who holds the public trust in regard to the operation of the library. . . . The law imposes high standards. Managing funds is one of the highest legal obligations of a board, particularly when the funds are from taxes. . . . Other duties include obeying the laws governing libraries. . . . and diligence in serving as a trustee.”

- Also from the above *Manual*: “How can trustees fulfill their duties in a responsible manner? . . . Eliminate any conflicts of interest on a board. A generally accepted rule of thumb is that a trustee or his/her immediate family may not receive any tangible or intangible gain in dealing with the library. In case a relative is a potential recipient of library funds, the affected trustee should abstain from any discussion or vote.”

And from the Public Library Association, *Ethics Statement for Public Library Trustees*: “Trustees must avoid situations in which personal interests might be served or financial benefits gained at the expense of library users, colleagues or the situation.”

Not only should library board members avoid conflicts of interest, self-dealing, etc., but they should avoid even the “appearance” of such things. Why? Because they are public officers. Because there are always those in a community who are examining what they do very carefully, looking for such things, and just because it’s good business to act ethically and openly. Otherwise you are asking for trouble.

We have all heard the statement that it is difficult, especially in smaller towns, to find people to serve on the library board (and it seems that a very small group within the community does everything and serves on every board, committee, etc.). This argument does not, however, excuse the library board from fulfilling its duties, in keeping with state law, avoiding conflicts of interest, and upholding the public trust. There is just no other way it should be carrying out its duties.

If you have any questions about this article, feel free to contact your Regional System Administrator or me.

Richard Miller richard.miller@nebraska.gov 800-307-2665 ♦

eBooks & Libraries

By Brenda Ealey, Southeast Library System Administrator

Well, the librarian hubbub concerning Harper Collins' decision to limit libraries' eBook lending to 26 check outs even made it to Billings, Montana, where several hundred librarians were gathered for the Mountain Plains Library Association/Montana Library Association (MPLA/MLA) joint conference that took place last week. At the closing luncheon, during a skyped presentation with author Adriana Trigiani (*Big Stone Gap*), Trigiani, whose books just happen to be published via Harper Collins, quipped: "You're (librarians) the ultimate ball busters of all time. Please forgive them (Harper Collins) – they're fixing it. You've scared the pants off those people." It would seem that a dialogue has at least begun between librarians and Harper Collins. The Connecticut Library Consortium organized a symposium – *eBooks: Collections at the Crossroads*, where Josh Marwell, president of sales for Harper Collins, said to librarians, "We're here because we want to have a dialog with your community. You're very important to us, you've been important to us for a very long time. I don't think our commitment has ever wavered to the library channel." (*Library Journal*, April 5, 2011 – *HarperCollins Executive Calls Circulation Cap a "Work in Progress"* by Michael Kelley)

The 26-loan cap on Library eBooks started March 7th and, as Francine Fialkoff, Editor-in-Chief, of *Library Journal* said in the April 1st, 2011 issue: "...has provoked the most widespread, vociferous reaction among public librarians to any vendor policy in recent memory..." The reaction has included posting of the **eBook User's Bill of Rights** by Sarah Houghton-Jan, assistant director for the San Rafael Public Library, on her *Librarian in Black* blog (librarianinblack.net). It's also provoked Brett Bonfield, director of the Collingswood Public Library (NJ), and Gabriel Farrell, a library systems developer at Drexel University, to launch a library boycott (boycottharpercollins.com) on buying books or eBooks from Harper Collins until the cap is lifted. Harper Collins decision to limit to 26 loans is intended to line up with the use a print book would see in a year and what they've interpreted as a typical life span with wear and tear of a popular title. HarperCollins also believes that the previous policy of no limits would end up decreasing book sales and royalties paid to authors. Infopeople provided a webinar on April 11th – *Can eBooks Fit into the Print Book Paradigm: Publishers and eBook Lending Limits* – which you can find archived at: <http://infopeople.org/training/webinar/ebooks>. Webinar presenters responded to the following questions: Is there true ownership of eBooks for libraries? Can libraries exist without ownership of eBooks? What is the best access model for eBooks? Is there a right of first sale that applies to eBooks?

Now, before we channel all that energy towards HarperCollins – remember that eBooks are not sold outright to libraries but licensed through another vendor, such as OverDrive, who distributes and provides access to library customers. OverDrive has now drawn the ire of Kansas State Library folks. They are crying foul with a recent proposed increase in annual administrative fees that add up to a 694% in just three years. Jo Budler, Kansas State Librarian, and former Nebraskan and Nebraska Library Commission employee, called the OverDrive proposal unreasonable, unsustainable and unacceptable. In fact, she's in the process of preparing a counteroffer to OverDrive. Jim Minges, Executive Director of the Northeast Kansas Library System (NKLS), another former Nebraskan and NLC staff person, advised the libraries in NKLS not to pay for additional content through OverDrive until the issue is resolved, partly due to confusion on what might happen to that content and concern about future access should the OverDrive contract not be renewed. (*Library Journal*, April 6, 2011 – *Kansas State Librarian Goes Eyeball to Eyeball with OverDrive in Contract Talks* by Michael Kelley)

In the meantime, eBooks continue to outsell their print counterparts and the demand for that format will undoubtedly continue to grow. There were multiple sessions at MPLA/MLA on eReaders, eBooks, and iPads, and in my travel to and from Billings multiple fellow travelers of all ages taking advantage of the convenience of reading via a mobile device. So – with deference to Maurice Sendak – "Let the wild rumpus start" or perhaps let the wild rumpus continue – and stay tuned. ♦

Fantastic Fundraisers

Given the current economic climate, several libraries in northeast Nebraska have been doing fundraisers. Many libraries have book sales, but libraries in our area have also sold wreaths, auctioned Christmas trees, and more. Here are a few good ideas to inspire fresh thoughts of what might work in your community.

Sweetheart Dinner

The Gardner Public Library in Wakefield held a fund-raising Sweetheart Dinner on Valentine's weekend. A local restaurant hosted the event and shared the profits with the library, giving them more than \$600. Library board members and students from FBLA at Wakefield school helped serve the dinner. Flowers were available for purchase from a local florist. Some profits from those sales also went to the library. Entertainment was by a barbershop quartet from Sioux City, IA. People said repeatedly that the best part of the whole event was the community spirit that was enjoyed. It felt more like a fancy dinner than a fundraiser!

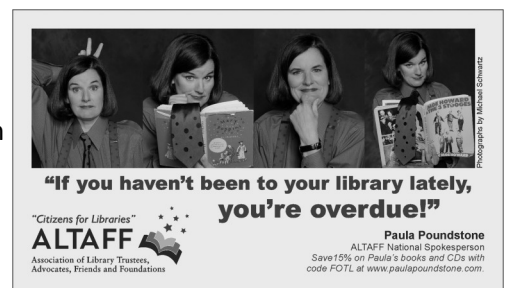


Annual Chocolate Lover's Day

The Friends of the Lied Pierce Public Library bring in a homemade chocolate items such as cakes, cheesecakes, tortes, cookies, brownies, pies, candies, fudge, etc. They cut and place the items on platters. The pieces are cut very small since there is a lot of sampling. Cakes, cheesecakes and pies are sometimes left on their own serving platter and sold whole. Community members can either stop by the library and pay a donation to sample the goodies, or they can order a platter to be delivered to a loved one. The library takes orders for the platters and delivers them to the recipient. The price for a platter is \$10 or \$20 depending on the size. The Friends of the Library typically make \$600-\$1,000.

Coupon Books

The Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations (ALTAFF), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), is partnering with Entertainment® Publications, LLC to offer a coupon booklet fundraiser to library Friends groups who are group members of ALTAFF. Friends of the Library groups can raise funds with their own coupon booklet, customized with their library photo, logo and name on the front cover. There are no upfront costs, and groups will earn up to \$10 per coupon booklet sold. Booklets feature 40 coupons specifically selected for each local group. Plus, those who purchase the coupon booklet receive access to the Digital Savings Club website, where they can print hundreds more offers in their area. The back cover of the coupon booklets feature ALTAFF's national spokesperson, the comedian and author Paula Poundstone, and her quote "If you haven't been to your library lately, you're overdue!" To get started creating a coupon booklet for your next fundraiser, complete the form available at www.entertainment.com/library, or call Entertainment at (866) 686-1432.



Has your library done an innovative, successful fundraiser? Contact the NELS office and share your story with us!



July 10-14, 2011
St. Benedict Center
Schuyler, NE

Beginning at 1:00 p.m. on the 10th
and ending after lunch on the 14th

Following the success of the 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009 Nebraska Library Leadership Institutes, the Nebraska Regional Library Systems are pleased to offer the sixth Leadership Institute. It is a four-day institute for 30 librarians from across the state who will become our library leaders of tomorrow. During the coming years, incredible socio-economic, demographic and technological changes will continue to take place and our leaders must ensure that libraries continue to serve as a key element in the state's info-structure.

Librarians of all types are encouraged to apply for this unique experience!

Purpose

The purpose of the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute 2011 is to provide future Nebraska library leaders a structured professional opportunity to:

- Examine their own leadership styles in depth .
- Gain knowledge and skills needed for effective leadership in a rapidly changing environment.
- Identify their professional and personal goals.
- Develop a network of professional peers with whom they will continue to work for years to come.
- Interact with a select group of outstanding library leaders who will serve as mentors.

Requirements

All applicants must complete an application form which can be found online at any of the system web pages or by contacting your System office or:

Kathy Tooker
Eastern Library System Director
11929 Elm St., Ste. 18, Omaha, NE,
68144
800-627-7884
ktooker@windstream.net

Applications must be postmarked no later than **May 20, 2011**. The 30 Institute participants will be notified by May 31, 2011. The tuition of \$225 from the 30 selected participants is due by June 30, 2011.

Funded by Nebraska Library Commission,
Nebraska Library Association, & Nebraska
Regional Library Systems.

Institute contingent upon funding.

Northeast Library System Board Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2011

The Northeast Library System Board met on Wednesday, March 16, 2011, at the Atkinson Public Library. Host was Judy Hagan. The meeting was called to order by President Kate Ostenrude. Members present were Judy Hagan, Michele Hastreiter, Tami Anderson, Dawnn Tucker, Jolene Klein, Beth Foulks, Kathy Ageton, Sally Stahlecker, Joyce Sullivan, and Kate Ostenrude. Michelle Hastreiter made a motion to approve Dee Johnson as alternate. (Hastreiter - 1M/ Stahlecker – 2M). Jessica Chamberlain, Library System Director, and Shelia Cermak, Administrative Assistant, were also present. Absent were Melissa Baumert, Susan Tyndall, and Elaine Tobias.

The Open Meeting Act location was given. One name correction was made to the minutes and a motion was made to approve the minutes. (Ageton – 1M / Hagan – 2M). Jessica Chamberlain presented the correspondence and communications, and Shelia Cermak gave the financial report. The response from system libraries regarding the reduction in mailed newsletter subscriptions has been very positive, overall. Dee Johnson made a motion to approve the financial report. (Johnson – 1M / Sullivan – 2M).

There were no reports from the Nebraska Library Commission or the State Advisory Council. Jessica gave the System Director's report. She informed the members that the agendas for each meeting will be posted online in advance of the meeting on the Northeast Library System web page <http://libraries.ne.gov/nels/calendar/#>, under Calendar & then under Board Meeting. The Budget Committee met for the 6 month status of the budget and reported that it is currently on target. Preparations for budget cuts and reductions are being made in anticipation of the proposed 11.5% reduction in state aid in July. The Strategic Planning committee will meet in July. No other committee reported.

In unfinished business, Jessica outlined the proposed arrangements for a joint annual conference to be hosted in September by the Northeast Library System and the ESUs # 1,2,7,8, and 17 (Northeast Nebraska Network Consortium –NNNC). Jolene Klein moved to proceed with the efforts to join the Northeast Library System and the ESUs for a joint Annual Conference in September. (Klein – 1M / Sullivan – 2M).

In new business, discussion was held regarding a possible bylaw change to Article XI – Annual Meeting. Joyce Sullivan proposed that the the bylaws for Article X1 – Annual Meeting would be revised to remove the phrase regarding electing the Nominating Committee at the Annual Meeting and the sentence regarding general membership vote for the Nominating Committee. The proposed bylaw would read, as follows:

The Board shall annually in September hold a public meeting of the membership and interested public within the System area. At the annual meeting there shall be a general interest program and a business meeting of the System membership to include:

- Reports of the state of the System
 - Report of the election of Board members; **and**
 - Election of Board officers by System Board members. ~~and-~~
 - ~~Election of the Nominating Committee by System members present.~~
- ~~Each independent library, library system, or school system shall have one vote.~~

Discussion was held regarding a proposed bylaw change for Article V, Section 10, Election of Officers. Dee Johnson proposed to remove the last sentence of the current bylaw to read:

The officers shall be elected by the System Board present during the System's annual meeting in September, shall assume office immediately at the end of the meeting, and shall serve until the next annual meeting. No person shall be elected to the same office for more than two consecutive one-year terms, except that there shall be no limit on the number of consecutive terms for the Treasurer. ~~The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of officers that has been published in the System newsletter and nominations shall be accepted from the floor at the annual meeting.~~

Discussion was held regarding a proposed bylaw change for Article IV – Members. Joyce Sullivan proposed replacing current text with the following:

All libraries within the system area are considered members of the System.

~~Libraries and media centers of all types within the System area shall be eligible for membership in the System. Each school district employing at least on half-time certified media specialist shall be eligible to apply for System membership. This qualification does not apply to current System members.~~

~~Qualified libraries and media centers shall become members when the System receives their signed membership endorsement form.~~

Discussion was held and consensus was made to remove the NELS Advocacy and Outstanding Librarian Awards, described in the Strategic Plan and listed on the old and new web sites.

Kathy Ageton moved to go in to closed session to discuss the System Director's evaluation. (Ageton 1M / Klein 2M). Dee Johnson moved to close the executive session. (Johnson 1M / Sullivan 2M). In regular session Michelle Hastreiter moved that we give a 1% raise of the base salary, effective immediately today, for the System Director, based on her positive evaluation. (Hastreiter 1M / Hagan 2M). Roll call: all aye.

Sharing of members' activities was tabled until lunch. Pat on the Back Awards will be given to Georgia Hassebrook of the Humphrey Public Library for outstanding library service, and to Lois Poessnecker and Lisa Bilstein of the Atkinson Public Library for being outstanding Friends of the Library. Sally Stahlecker moved to pay the claims of the day. (Stahlecker 1M / Hastreiter 2M). Roll call vote was all aye. Michelle Hastreiter moved to adjourn the meeting. (Hastreiter 1M / Johnson 2M).

Respectfully submitted,

Jolene Klein, Secretary

Straight Talk is published 6 times per year by the Northeast Library System.

Libraries in northeast Nebraska may receive 2 free copies of the newsletter. Additional copies are available for \$1 each.

To subscribe to additional copies or update names or addresses, please contact

Jessica Chamberlain or Shelia Cermak at the Northeast Library System Office.

Jessica Chamberlain, editor

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Our NELS Board Members

Joyce Sullivan, Elgin Public Library
Michele Hastreiter, Humphrey Public Library
Elaine Tobias, Pilger Public Library
Melissa Baumert, Clarkson Public Library
Dawnn Tucker, Lied Pierce Public Library
Kate Ostenrude – President, Neligh Public Library
Tami Anderson, Hartington Public Library
Judy Hagan, Atkinson Public Library
Kathy Ageton, Lutheran High Northeast, Norfolk
Sally Stahlecker – Vice President, Norfolk Public Library
Beth Foulks, Ponca Public Schools
Jolene Klein – Secretary, Wakefield Community Schools
Susan Tyndall, Nebraska Indian Community College